WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated polypeptide corresponding to an N-terminal fragment of human cardiac troponin I consisting of about 95 to about 115 amino acids.

2. The troponin I fragment of Claim 1 which has an intact, native cardiac troponin I N-terminus.

3. The troponin I fragment of claim 2 represented by SEQ ID NO:2.

4. The polynucleotide sequence of a troponin I fragment as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

5. A replicable cloning or expression vehicle comprising a polynucleotide sequence coding for the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

6. A host cell transformed with the vehicle of claim 5.

7. The host cell of claim 6 which is an *E. coli* host cell.

8. The *E. coli* host cell of claim 7 having the ATCC number 98824.

9. The troponin I fragment of Claim 1 comprising a sequence from about amino acid 20 to 30, to about amino acid 95 to 115.

10. A method of preparing antibodies that recognize a stable, in-vivo-occurring fragment of troponin I by using a troponin I fragment of claim 1 as an immunogen.

11. A method of purifying anti-troponin I antibodies that recognized a stable, in-

vivo-occurring fragment of troponin I by using the troponin I fragment of claim 1 as a reagent for affinity purification.

12. Calibrators and controls for a troponin I immunoassay comprising a polypeptide of claim 1.

13. The calibrators and controls of claim 12 as shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

14. A method for the immunodetection of human cardiac troponin I in a bodily fluid utilizing an antibody which is raised against the polypeptide of claim 1.

15. A kit for the immunodetection of human cardiac troponin I in a sample of bodily fluid comprising:

(a) an antibody which is raised against the polypeptide of claim 1;

(b) means for determining the extent of interaction of said antibody with troponin I in said sample.